

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by D'Costa et al. (US Patent No. 5,779,241). However, the Examiner has pointed out that claims 2 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

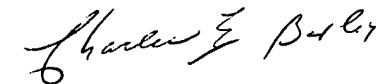
Responsive to this, claim 2 is deleted and claim 1 is amended which is substantially the combination of original claims 1 and 2 so as to make the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior arts cited by the Examiner. It is believed that, the amended claim 1 has disclosed a structure whose construction and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over the cited prior arts. Therefore, it is believed that, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) should be removed, and the amended claim 1 should be allowable.

It is further submitted the amended claims 4-6 should be allowable as they are dependent upon the amended claim 1 which is believed to be allowable.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The examiner points out that the expression "the male connector of the sections" in line 2 lacks antecedent basis. However, the amended claim 1 has cited the term of "male connector of the sections" so that the rejection is disappeared and claim 3 is also allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, he is urged to contact Applicant's attorney at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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